

Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of February 28, 2005

1. **Tenant Opportunity to Purchase (Ward 5):** The City was recently informed that 8317 Roanoke Ave (3 units) is being sold and has a third party contract. The tenants have been informed of their rights to match the contract of \$379,000. (*Housing and Community Development*)
2. **Tenant Capacity Building Program (City-wide):** The Tenant Capacity Program is in the process of planning a meeting with all registered tenant associations that will take place in April or May. This is the first time that a meeting of this type has been planned. The purpose will be to initiate dialogue among the tenant groups, helping them to identify areas of common concern. A review of the new AC Ordinance and a status report regarding the review of the Rent Stabilization Program will also be presented by staff. (*Housing and Community Development*)
3. **MOU - Rental Housing Inspections Update (City-wide):** The County has completed its first round of inspections of Takoma Park's licensed multi-family rental housing facilities and is continuing its inspections of all licensed single family rentals. Landlords with unapproved accessory apartments are being required to obtain approval for the units through the special exception process. In houses where the units are either no longer being rented or have been converted into space used by the owner, the owners have been encouraged to apply for the revocation of previously approved Special Exceptions. Property owners with living spaces occupied rent free by family members or household help are being required to register under the County's Registered Living Unit program. An accessory apartment is defined as a second dwelling unit that is part of an existing one-family detached dwelling, or is located in a separate existing accessory structure on the same lot. A Registered Living Unit is part of an owner-occupied one-family detached dwelling and is occupied by a limited number of unrelated persons. (*Housing and Community Development*)
4. **Takoma-Piney Branch Park Renovation Plan (Wards 4 and 5):** Park and Planning staff will present revised plans for Takoma-Piney Branch Park at Monday night's Council meeting. Copies of the revised plans will then be distributed to neighboring residents. (*Community & Government Liaison*)
5. **Community Center:** The State Senate Budget and Taxation Committee hearing on the Takoma Park Community Learning Center Bond Bill is scheduled for Saturday, March 19 at 5 pm. State Bond Bills are matching grants. The City has requested \$1,000,000 for the construction of the Community Center. A hearing before the House Appropriations Committee has not been set yet, but will occur within the next couple of weeks. (*Community & Government Liaison*)
6. **Light Detection And Ranging (LIDAR) (All Wards):** Traffic LIDAR enforcement details were conducted on New Hampshire Avenue, Philadelphia Avenue, Carroll Avenue, Piney Branch Road, and University Boulevard. Observation of traffic control device details were conducted on Elm Avenue, Poplar Avenue and Takoma Avenue. 110 Citations and written warnings were issued on these details, in addition to regular traffic enforcement efforts. (*Police*)

7. **Crime Report (Ward 2):** On Saturday February 26, 2005, Criminal Investigations Unit executed a Search and Seizure Warrant in the 6900 block of Prince George's Avenue. The purpose of the execution of the Search Warrant was to seize drugs and weapons. This was requested by DC Metropolitan Police Department. DC Police had a Citizen Armed Robbery that occurred on February 25, 2005. A lookout was posted of the suspects and vehicle that they were operating. DC Focus Mission Unit observed a possible suspect vehicle. A large quantity of drugs and U.S. Currency were recovered, including two handguns. The driver of the vehicle was identified as living in the 6900 block of Prince George's Avenue. (*Police*)

8. **The Storyteller:** Internationally trained storyteller Arianna Ross entertained about 40 adults and children with folktales from fishing villages of the Indonesian coast on March 1st. The program was followed by a storytelling workshop. Both events were funded by the Friends of the Library. (*Library*)

9. **Friends of the Takoma Park Library Annual Meeting:** The Friends will hold their annual meeting and Board elections on March 22nd. at 7:30 PM in the Library. Two Member-at-Large positions are open. Interested candidates may contact Nominating Committee member Karen Petersen at 301-891-2588. The evening's entertainment will feature refreshments and a folk music performance by Rick and Audrey Engdahl and members of their band. (*Library*)

10. **Annual Favorite Poem Evening:** The Library and the English Department of Columbia Union College are soliciting submissions for the seventh annual "Favorite Poem" evening on April 21st. Participants are invited to read a published poem that they enjoy or has meaning for them. Submissions are requested by April 8th. The event will be followed by an informal reception and is expected to be held at a location at CUC because of Community Center construction. (*Library*)